



**FRONTIERS
NORTH**
ADVENTURES



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Polar Bears at Tundra Buggy Lodge



Frontiers North's Tundra Buggy Lodge is located at Polar Bear Point in the Churchill Wildlife Management Area, home to the largest concentration of polar bears in the Churchill area. The lodge offers a unique, immersive experience where, when conditions are right, you can view the dance of the northern lights from the rooftop observation deck and fall asleep with polar bears right outside your window.

Daily Tundra Buggy® adventures take you beyond the lodge for plenty of photography opportunities. Evenings at the lodge can be just as memorable, with delectable, regional dishes created by your private lodge chef and ample time to swap stories with other guests and enjoy regional cuisine. As a guest at the Tundra Buggy Lodge, you will also have the chance to witness the spectacular northern lights of Churchill from the rooftop observation deck, weather permitting.



Enjoy the thrill of polar bear viewing on an official Tundra Buggy adventure.



Explore, sleep and eat in the heart of polar bear country at the Tundra Buggy Lodge.



Learn about polar bears and Churchill with a knowledgeable Interpretive Guide.

Individual itineraries and inclusions may vary.



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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What are the accommodations like?

The lodge consists of two accommodation units that can sleep up to 40 guests, a lounge, a dining hall and staff quarters. Outdoor viewing platforms connect each unit and allow for outdoor photography. Situated far from the lights of town, the Tundra Buggy Lodge is the perfect place to view polar bears all day long and have optimal northern lights viewing at night (weather permitting).

What is the food like?

Amazing. The Tundra Buggy Lodge has a private chef who makes delicious home-cooked meals each day. There is hot breakfast, cereal, coffee/tea in the morning, homemade soup and sandwiches for lunch, and local cuisine such as arctic char, bison or elk for dinner. Each meal is delicious and made specially for our guests. The chef can also accommodate special dietary requirements with prior notice.

Where can we socialize at the lodge?

Thanadelthur Lounge is where guests are invited to mingle before and after dinner to share photos and stories about their exciting day on the tundra. After dinner, guests can partake in presentations from Polar Bears International representatives and Frontiers North staff. Thanadelthur Lounge has Wi-Fi access, and is also the best place to view the northern lights with its panoramic views from the wall-to-ceiling windows and roof-top observation deck.

How many people can stay at the lodge?

Up to 40 guests can stay at the Tundra Buggy Lodge. Groups are divided into two accommodation units with 20 guests in each.

Weather Conditions:

Temperature can vary from -13°C to -2°C (9°F to 29°F), but strong winds can make the temperature feel colder (the "windchill factor"). The Tundra Buggy is heated, but when we see wildlife the interior cools because the windows are opened to get a better view. The best way to stay comfortable is to dress in warm layers.

Need gear? Check out our Gear Rental program at frontiersnorth.com/gear-rentals



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OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH POLAR BEARS INTERNATIONAL

Polar Bears International (PBI) is the world's leading polar bear conservation group, dedicated to saving polar bears by saving their habitat. Our exclusive partnership provides our guests the opportunity to learn firsthand from PBI Field Ambassadors and species experts in the field.



DID YOU KNOW?

A portion of your tour cost goes toward PBI in support of its programs and conservation efforts.

Packing Suggestions:

Checked baggage for all flights must be limited to one piece per guest for a maximum total of 50lbs (23kg). The maximum dimensions permitted for carry-on baggage is 10" x 16" x 12" (25cm x 40cm x 30cm). Carry on that exceeds these dimensions would be considered checked baggage and would have to be stored in the general baggage compartment.

See our autumn packing checklist at frontiersnorth.com/what-to-wear/autumn



HELPFUL TIPS FOR YOUR ADVENTURE

Passports

All international travellers are required to have passports to enter Canada. Well before your departure, we invite you to visit the [Government of Canada's Citizenship and Immigration website](#) for more information. All travellers to and from the United States are required to have a passport. For more information, visit [travel.state.gov](#).

Currency Exchange

We suggest you exchange your currency into Canadian dollars prior to your departure. Currency exchange can be completed at most major banks or international airports. Visa and Mastercard are accepted in Churchill at most shops, hotels and restaurants. There is also an ATM at the Royal Bank in the Bayport Plaza.

Gratuities

In North America, it is customary to 'tip' staff for what you feel is excellent service. Tipping should be done at your discretion. We are happy to provide the following suggestions for your consideration: Tundra Buggy Drivers \$10 each; Yurt staff \$10 each; Interpretive Guides and Tundra Buggy Drivers \$10 each per day. Gratuities are included in the tour price for 2024 and later travel dates.

Daylight in Churchill

During your adventure you can expect approximately 9 hours of daylight. The later in the season, the fewer hours of daylight there are.

Traveller Expectations

Unpredictable conditions in the North make it necessary for you to come prepared and be flexible. We want nothing more than for every one of our guests to enjoy their time with us. Churchill is a very unique destination, and you are about to embark on an exciting adventure!



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Gear Rental

We are happy to offer our guests outstanding Canada Goose parkas, snow pants and Baffin boots through our Gear Rental Program. Visit [frontiersnorth.com/gear-rentals](#) for a What to Wear video and more information.

Extend Your Stay

Your adventure includes overnight stays in Winnipeg, one before your departure to Churchill and one after your return from Churchill. However, if you would like to add more time in Winnipeg, please contact our office for more information.

Travel Insurance

Travel in Canada's North is not like other parts of the world. You will be travelling to a remote destination. Comprehensive Travel Insurance coverage is mandatory. See our full Booking Terms and Conditions at [frontiersnorth.com/adventures/terms-conditions](#).

AUTUMN PHOTOGRAPHY TIPS

Equipment and Settings:

Cameras

Any camera can be used to capture images while aboard the Tundra Buggy. Compact cameras or mobile phone cameras are fine at times when bears or other wildlife are close to the Tundra Buggy, but a midrange zoom or interchangeable telephoto lens with image stabilization allows the most flexibility. Many digital cameras also have a video feature built in, which is great for capturing wildlife behaviour, movement and audio.

Lenses

A midrange zoom lens allows for quick manoeuvrability and composure. For those with interchangeable lenses, it's a good idea to have at minimum wide and midrange lenses on hand (less than 80 mm and 70-200 mm, respectively). You may also consider adding a good telephoto lens to complete your kit (greater than 200 mm). In autumn, heavy cloud over Churchill often results in lower light levels, so faster lenses (minimum F4.0) will help combat low-light conditions. Wide angle lenses are well suited for images of the landscape, northern lights and bears when they're near the Tundra Buggy, while longer lenses are great for wildlife such as foxes, birds and bears that may be approaching from further away. Longer lenses also give the illusion of being closer to eye level with your subjects. Autofocus settings (AF) work well the majority of the time but rely on contrast, so they may not function well when aimed directly at light patches of fur or snow without obvious detail. Focus on the animal's eye, nose or other obvious detail, or change your camera settings to manual focus (MF) if it's too challenging.

Memory Cards

Make sure you have enough memory card storage with you. Bring extra memory cards and/or have a way to download the images on another storage device, such as a laptop and spare hard drive. It's common to use 32GB of storage—or more—in a single day.

TIP: Take a few smaller cards (four 8GB cards) rather than one big card (32GB or 64GB) unless shooting HD or 4K video continuously. If a card breaks, it's hard to retrieve images.

Extra Batteries

The cold will drain batteries quicker than normal, so keep spares in a warm pocket near your body to help maintain their charge. There are no outlets to charge batteries on the Tundra Buggy. Make sure to also pack your battery charger, and travel plug adapter if required, so you can recharge your batteries at your overnight accommodations.

Light Sensitivity

Digital capture at ISO 400-800 usually works well on overcast days and early evenings as the light wanes. For bright days when the sun is out, it is recommended to set your camera settings to ISO 100.

Camera Support:

Monopod

Most point-and-shoot cameras can be hand held, but cameras with longer lenses need support in order to obtain sharper images. A monopod is a good form of support for your camera when shooting from the Tundra Buggy. It is also recommended to bring a beanbag to rest your camera on the windowsill while shooting.

POINTS OF INTEREST AROUND CHURCHILL

The Churchill Inukshuk

Located directly on Hudson Bay, this large Inukshuk is a popular spot for group photography. Be aware: there are often bear sightings along this shore.

Seawalls Churchill Murals

Spearheaded by Manitoba artist Kal Barteski, this event transformed abandoned buildings, objects and blank walls around Churchill into beautiful murals to raise awareness for ocean health and conservation. Transportation required for some murals. Multiple locations throughout Churchill.

Cape Merry National Historic Site

A stone battery built on this site in 1746 provided additional protection for Prince of Wales Fort across the Churchill River. It is an excellent location for watching whales, viewing waterfowl or migrating birds or simply enjoying the panoramic view of Hudson Bay. Transportation required. Please note that bear sightings in this area are common. Never walk alone in this area and always be bear aware!

Town Centre Complex

Opened in 1976, this expansive structure serves as a focus for many community activities. The Centre includes the municipal offices for The Town of Churchill, the Churchill hospital, Duke of Marlborough School, the public library, as well as a curling rink, arena, swimming pool, cafeteria, bowling alley, indoor playground and theatre.

MV Ithaca

The wreck of the MV Ithaca sits 20 km (12 miles) east of Churchill, high and dry when the tide is low and surrounded by water when the tide is in. Bound for Rankin Inlet in September 1960, the right rudder broke in an 80mph gale and it floundered near Bird Cove where it rests to this day. Transportation required.



Miss Piggy

The site of a crashed airplane affectionately known by locals as Miss Piggy. The plane crashed in November 1979 as it attempted to return to the Churchill airport shortly after take-off. The plane landed in rough terrain and still remains there today. Transportation required.

Polar Bear Holding Facility

The Polar Bear Holding Facility in Churchill is referred to by the locals as Polar Bear Jail. If a bear is repeatedly chased from the town it may eventually be captured and put in 'jail' for up to 30 days before being released north of the town or out onto the frozen Hudson Bay. Transportation required.



POLAR BEAR ALERT PROGRAM

Autumn is Churchill's polar bear season, meaning this time of year is when they are most active in the region. Always practice bear safety during your time in Churchill.

Polar bears spend much of their year roaming the ice of Hudson Bay hunting seals. When the ice begins to melt in July, the bears come ashore and remain on land until the bay freezes over in late November. While on land in the summer, the bears eat little and are quite inactive. But as autumn approaches, they begin to move northward along the coast and congregate where the first winter ice forms. This annual movement brings many bears into the town of Churchill each year.

Manitoba Conservation and the Town of Churchill have worked hard to educate the people of Churchill and visitors about polar bears and how to avoid potentially dangerous situations. Manitoba Conservation operates the Polar Bear Alert Program, which has the following objectives:

1. To protect people and property from the dangers posed by the presence of polar bears.
2. To ensure the conservation of polar bears and avoid undue harassment and killing of bears.
3. To prevent polar bears in the Churchill area from becoming conditioned to scavenging for food or developing other problem behaviours.
4. To protect Manitoba Conservation staff who work in the Polar Bear Alert Program.



IF YOU ENCOUNTER A POLAR BEAR ▾

- Stay calm
- Stay with your group
- Back away, facing the bear at all times
- Do not turn and run away
- Do not play dead
- Get into your vehicle or a building as fast as possible
- Call the Polar Bear Alert line at 204-675-2327 (204-675-BEAR)

